

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application No. 09/518,699
Inventors: Martin S. Berger
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Group Art Unit: 3687
Confirmation Number: 7109
Examiner: Andrew J. Rudy
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROMOTING
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION

Dear Sir:

I, Martin S. Berger, declare that I am the inventor in the above-identified application and that the subject matter of said application as it has since been amended, and in particular the subject matter of the invention as defined by the attached claims as allowed, was part of my invention, and was invented before I filed the original application for the invention.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims which were amended during prosecution and subsequently allowed.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent.

I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: 8/4/10

By: Martin S. Berger
Martin S. Berger

ALLOWED CLAIMS

Claim 1. A computer implemented system promoting inventions over the Internet communications network, the system comprising:

a host computer station constituting an Internet domain site connected to said communications network and having a database with stored descriptions of respective inventions and their distinctive features;

a publicly accessible interface in communication with the host computer station and in communication with plural consumer computer stations via the communications network;

a first computer program module at said host computer station selecting at least one of said inventions by reference to the stored invention descriptions and distinctive features for viewing at said plural consumer computer stations and thereafter receiving feedback data relating to a consumer desirability of the selected inventions, wherein said first computer program module includes a survey module eliciting said feedback data from multiple users of the consumer computer stations by posing one or more questions to said users regarding said consumer desirability of products incorporating the selected inventions and consolidating their responses;

a second computer program module receiving said consolidated responses at said host computer station to provide an information summary of the consumer desirability for the respective selected inventions;

a restricted access interface in communication with the host computer station and in communication with plural industry computer stations via the communications network, wherein users of said industry computer stations are specifically identified by said host computer station as authorized to access said information summary; and

a computer program module transferring said information summary to said authorized industry computer stations but not to said consumer computer stations.

Claim 2. The computer implemented system of claim 1, wherein:

said first computer program module searches a desired grouping of inventions having at least one common feature prior to selecting said at least one invention.

Claim 3. The computer implemented system according to claim 2, wherein:

said at least one common feature is one of a Standard Industrial Classification code and a North American Industry Classification System code.

Claim 4. The computer implemented system according to claim 1, wherein:

said at least one database further includes at least one confidential information description of said inventions, respectively.

Claim 5. The computer implemented system according to claim 4, including:

a third computer program module operable to provide said one confidential information description to be viewable only by selected ones of said industry computer stations.

Claim 6. A computer implemented system for obtaining informed consumer opinions over a communications network regarding the commercial attractiveness of customer inventions, comprising:

a host computer station connected to said communications network and having a database storing identification of customers and descriptions of respective inventions of said customers, including distinctive features of said inventions;

a publicly accessible interface in communication with the host computer station and in communication with plural customer computer stations via the communications network, the

users of said customer computer stations being customers who own respective proprietary interests in said inventions;

the publicly accessible interface being in communication with the host computer station and in communication with plural consumer computer stations via the communications network, users of said consumer computer stations being consumers who constitute potential purchasers of products incorporating said inventions;

a first computer program module enabling respective customer identifications and descriptions of their inventions, including the distinctive features of said inventions, from each of said customers to be received and stored in said database;

a second computer program module (i) enabling access by said consumers at said plural consumer computer stations to said inventions by reference to the stored invention description, (ii) thereafter receiving feedback data relating to a commercial attractiveness of products incorporating the selected inventions, said second computer program module including a survey module eliciting said feedback data from multiple ones of the consumer computer stations by posing one or more questions regarding said commercial attractiveness of products incorporating the selected inventions and responding to answers thereto constituting such feedback data, and (iii) thereafter consolidating said answers to provide respective information summaries regarding the commercial attractiveness of the selected inventions;

a third computer program module receiving said information summaries at said host computer station for storage in the database;

a restricted access interface in communication with the host computer station and in communication with plural industry computer stations via the communications network, users of said industry computer stations being involved with commercial transactions regarding said

inventions, wherein the users of said industry computer stations are specifically identified by said host computer station as authorized to access said information summaries; and

a fourth computer program module transferring said information summaries to said industry computer stations but not to said consumer computer stations.

Claim 7. The computer implemented system of Claim 6 in which said first computer program module additionally enables the storage in said database of information pertaining to the legal protection status of said inventions.

Claim 8. A computer implemented system promoting inventions over the Internet communications network, the system comprising:

a host computer station connected to said communications network and having a database with stored invention information, including confidential invention information and non-confidential invention information;

a restricted access interface in communication with the host computer station and in communication with at least one industry computer station via the communications network;

a computer program enrollment module enrolling an industry representative user of said industry computer station as an industry representative wishing to access the confidential invention information, wherein said enrollment module conditions such access upon the industry representative executing a confidentiality agreement regarding the confidential invention information; and

a computer program invention disclosure module selectively granting the industry representative user access to said confidential invention information upon execution by the industry representative user of the confidentiality agreement but not to other users.